GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3204
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2002
UTILISATION OF LAND ACQUIRED BY ASIATIC SOCIETY
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asiatic Society acquired 143.978 Sq. meter on lease from Kolkata Municipal Corporation in Annexe Building in June, 1994 for accommodating its Publication Department and for carrying out other official works;

(b) if so, whether no feasibility study was conducted which resulted in wasteful expenditure of Rs.47.56 lakh as has been pointed out by CAG in its report no.4; and

(c) if so, the remedial action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The amount of expenditure was Rs.23.26 lakhs as mentioned by CAG in its report and not Rs.47.56 lakhs. It was not a wasteful expenditure because the proposed space was acquired for Exhibition-cum-Sales counter of the Publication Department of the Asiatic Society. The decision was taken by the Standing Finance Committee with the subsequent approval of the Council of the Society.

(c) Does not arise.